1. Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes

* October 8 minutes approved after amendments-

1. community volunteer communication plan with SGT

Mr. Harris community volunteer coordinator. Formalize a communication plan with SGT.

Mr. Harris presentation regarding volunteering. Importance of non-staff to sign up. Focus on asterisk items, projects, that are assumed on-going. What is the process of getting things evaluated/approved by school? What are the deciding entities of these.

Expand educational fund raising activities: writing grants, etc. Set uup a sustem to track RMS alumni. How are they doing, college.. etc. The point is for SGT to look at the items and decide if these things fit within the school.

Good body- we are an advisory committee to Dr. Cabello. This is definitely the forum if you would like teacher and staff feedback.

Harris- Advisement and development can be forwarded to parents/PTA if SGT is lacking the

time to do it.

Harris – SGT can go to website of volunteers and provide the number of hours that we spend with SGT – volunteers.

Goodbody – No actionable items. Thanks.

1. Common Core, Smarted Balanced

Annotation for Reading and Writing across the school

* What was voted on is listed first. The significant discussion that preceded each vote is documented below.
* Vote: Place district adopted common core focus reading / writing posters in all classes, math posters in math classes.
* Moved by Mr. Goodbody
* Second Mr. Schonian
* Vote = all in favor
* Vote: Development of a common school wide reading and writing strategies that include QTEL and Thinking Maps
  + Moved by Dr. Cabello
  + Second Mr. Goodbody
* Vote = all in favor
* Vote: Teachers will align curriculum across grade level content area, teaching the same things around the same time
  + Moved by Mr. Valdez
  + Second Mr. Goodbody
* Vote = all in favor
* Vote: All teachers will participate in structured collaborative PLC like groups during schools hours at designated times. Edit: PLC like groups during designated collaboration times.
  + Moved by Mr. Valdez
  + Second Mr. Harvey
* Vote = all in favor
* Vote: During collaborative time teachers will discuss and calibrate assessments using student work and data.
  + Moved Mr. Valdez
  + Second Mrs. Trueblood
* Vote = all in favor

Discussion below:

Cabello – not to take too much time. SGT is an advisory to the Principal but your task is to also share the information with your department peers. As RMS gets closer to tesing it is important to look at the district’s goals. Posting posters highlighting the goals highlighted by the district. Posters are to go into math for math, English for English. All classes should have the ENGLISH POSTERS. Vote need to be taken by GT. For example three teachers, algebra, should be working on the same unit and should be able to provide the progress. Teachers should not be independently teaching classes. Reading and writing annotation , including math. We are charged with using CLOSE reading….capacity to read. Students tend to give up if the level is too difficult. Our goal is to adopt strategies across the school. Three or five things that are used at another school ( Innovation middle school ): circle the words that students are not familiar with. Highlight specific sentences differentiating between facts and opinions. By doing that we, students, can go back and clarify what they are reading.

We need to decide if this is something we want to do at RMS. Data director is going away. A new program that will take it’s place will allow us to go into a classroom and easily extract info about ELLs, for example, and see how each of them are doing. We can focus on how each individual student is doing and what can be done to help that student.

Call a vote? Discuss? We need to decide so that I can take the results to ILS.

Chonnyan –Need clarification about the posters.

Cabello- Repeat of where the posters, and what will go into classrooms.

Schonian – motions for vote.

Goodbody – move to put common core posters in everyclassroom.

Sch – vote, discussion.

Vote – All Aye’s, no nayes,

Hall – What is a CLOSE strategy.

Good – Perhaps we need some training, in conjunction with the poster.

Ehrlich/Knox – explaining what a close….strategies.

AC – moving towards strategies that focuses on more complex processes in reading. In search of deeper meaning in the reading passages (students in the classroom).

Hall and Valdez exchange over what close strategies means.

AC – The goal is to have the same rules (a common language)/language about reading and math. So that a student can know what all of the teachers are talking about : a common language, and strategies.

Schonian and Ehrlich exchange about the additional load that teachers, not present, would have to take.

Schonian – I don’t want to vote on something that all teachers will be affected on.

Good – this is just a movement to decide whether or not to develop this into the whole school.

Parent – can we develop collaboration for all teachers to build a better vision for the improvement of our students.

Cabello- once this body approves something then it moves to the ILT. This is not something that I decide …

Vote – all yays.

Cabello – It’s important to consider this so that there is more unity, units of study, amongst the various teachers that are teaching the same subject/grade.

Parent – Teachers will need a lot of support. I will get together, meeting, with the parents. Or, perhaps a website that will notify parents about all of this.

Cabello – that is a different meeting.

Cabello – More project based, inquiry, …..results go into data director.

Good – We do have common assessments in the areas that we have developed. We ned to have the time to have the conversations. I’d be in favor of developing a PLC model. We are already in sync in the sci dept.

Cabello – explanation of department meetings and staff meetings. Teachers can use prep periods/time to reach out to other teachers.

Scho – prep period is a very busy time. Our prep is short and limited. Parent conversations etc.

Cabello – Tuesday prep days, I am talking about the prep days given on Tuesdays. Sum of the hours is close to twenty.

Parent – teachers that are meeting every month, do they have a plan? Do they have agendas?

Cabello – Yes. Minutes of the meeting will be required. Meetings will be more structured.

A clear definition needs to be established about teachers getting together and sharing, analyzing data.. etc.

Harvey – difference between grade level students and non, Common assessments is a good idea.

Ginsberg – where would my common assessments come from.

AC – you can write rubrics.

Cabello – examples learned from Innovations school. Students questioned about the applicability of what they were learning to real life.

Goodbody – You are asking us to agree on doing something that we are already set to do.

Cabello – I want a formal agreement. PLC’s, agreements, or whatever it is called. I want to take the concept back to the ILT and you both agree on something. I want everyone to know what we are all agreeing and that would be the focus over the next few years.

Trueblood – Which structures are we talking about? We need to agree on common assessments.

IB is already asking for common assessment. We are asking teachers to move forward with common assessments.

Valdez – We want everyone to align the units. Professional conversations amongst teachers so that the alignment of the units is true.

Cabello – Units need to be calibrated so that the rubrics are fair, graded the same, across different teachers.

Parent – I think it is explained to align the curriculum.

Valdez – We need to break it up into different categories.

Good – prescribed minimums?

Good- Hesitant to say ‘you are doing this’ we need to take it a bit slower.

Parent What we need for the kids and, teachers is collaboration, the alignment and the collaboration is good.

Schonian – How can we make this better with the time we have. We, teachers, are also parents.

Parent – I can’t understand why you need more time. At Sherman it is working.

Valdez – Years of curriculum writing has already happened. We are taking the next step.

Motion to approve that teachers allign their curriculum.

Goodbody – second the alignment.

Goodbody - in favor of aligning? All yays.

Valdez- move to calibrate common assessments through out the entire unit. Prescribed minimums. All teachers will participate, collaborate.

1. Parent teacher conferences

PT conferences planning and organization

* Trub – Counselors will attempt to schedule meetings before 4:30, grading policy, etc.

Good – Parent teacher conferences. Develop some medium to sign up a student so that all teachers can meet the parent at one time. Scheduling conversation needs to happen.

Parent – How do parents get informed/participate. Paper sent home and signed within two days works great at Sherman elem.

Matthew – technically, paper is not good because kids keep the paper in the backpack. I mean, it is simple but I forget it.

Good – Can we send out, by Friday, a sign up sheet to parents?

Trub – We can assist with ‘a must talk to parents need’ list. We need to have a Spanish speaker present etc.

Good - Can we get a list going? Names with time so that teachers can schedule around that?

Scho – We do need to have more Spanish speakers to facilitate the PT conferences.

Trub – We need to be able to have meetings past 430 because some parents cannot get here before 430.

Parent – explain the difference between the A – F grading scales.

Good – teachers have names by Friday, give to counselors.

Good – Sarah and I will create a form for teachers to send home showing their available times.

1. ASB

Activities for 6th graders? Impact of ASB scheduled 2nd period

Goodb – ASB 6 grade reps during lunch.

Round Table:

Scho- cesar chavez club doing well. Explanation of what the club does

Trub – msap grant, nov 13, minimally working with teahers pull outs.

Msap group will be interviewing parents, teachers, students, etc….

Harris- wants to put SGT into email list so that we can weigh in as events develop.

Parent community outreach after school activities, back to school night, etc. Minerva Espejo. Action item November meeting.

1. Trueblood shared Diversity Council info and bullying reporting

Tabled for next time:

1. dress code (outerwear) (if time permits)

Outerwear sales, what colors are offered? Future of hoodie sales?

1. Disaster preparedness (if time permits)

Debrief of last drill? Site debrief or notes? Reorganization of spots on field? Frequency of drills?

1. Student tardiness (if time permits)

Late release by teachers / tardy sweeps?